

CALIFORNIA GUARDIAN SCHOLARS INITIATIVE

GOAL

Connect disadvantaged former foster youth and young adults to post-secondary education and training

TARGET GROUPS

Transition-age foster care youth and young adults

PARTNERSHIP

Community colleges, California State University, University of California, independent colleges, child welfare agencies, community-based organizations, foundations

PROGRAM MODEL

On-campus student support for completing two-year or four-year degrees and/or vocational certification, including the following essential elements:

- Priority for campus housing
- Mentoring/academic coaching & advising
- Financial aid & work study
- External champion (alumni, donors, service providers, and/or advocacy groups) who can assist with program and fund development and connections with community services
- Formal ties with child welfare system
- Long-term sustainability plan
- Access to student support programs (i.e. TRIO, EOP)
- Data collection; assessing student progress
- Social support and case management
- Internal champion (a dean, chancellor, or a person with similar authority) who rallies support throughout the campus.
- Linkages to community colleges to improve transfer rates.

SCOPE: CURRENT & PLANNED SITES

CSU sites: CSU Fullerton, Cal Poly Pomona, CSU East Bay, San Francisco State, San Jose State

Community college sites: Orange Coast College, Santa Rosa CC, San Diego CC's

UC Sites: UC Irvine, UCLA, USC, UC Santa Cruz, UC Berkeley

Independent College sites: Hope International University, Chapman University, American Career College, Concordia University, Santa Ana College, Loyola Marymount University

Planning/early implementation sites: CSU Fresno, UC Davis, CSU Sacramento, City College of Francisco, San Diego State University